



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/502,239	07/22/2004	Heinrich Schubert	E7900.2001/P2001	4005
24998	7590	04/16/2012	EXAMINER	
DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO LLP 1825 EYE STREET NW Washington, DC 20006-5403				EREZO, DARWIN P
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
3773				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
04/16/2012		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<p style="text-align: center;">Advisory Action Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief</p>	<p>Application No. 10/502,239</p>	<p>Applicant(s) SCHUBERT, HEINRICH</p>
<p>Examiner DARWIN EREZO</p>	<p>Art Unit 3773</p>	
<p>--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --</p>		
<p>THE REPLY FILED <u>17 February 2012</u> FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.</p>		
<p>NO NOTICE OF APPEAL FILED</p>		
<p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The reply was filed after a final rejection. No Notice of Appeal has been filed. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114 if this is a utility or plant application. Note that RCEs are not permitted in design applications. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:</p>		
<p>a) <input type="checkbox"/> The period for reply expires _____ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.</p>		
<p>b) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action; or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.</p>		
<p>c) <input type="checkbox"/> A prior Advisory Action was mailed more than 3 months after the mailing date of the final rejection in response to a first after-final reply filed within 2 months of the mailing date of the final rejection. The current period for reply expires _____ months from the mailing date of the prior Advisory Action or SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection, whichever is earlier.</p>		
<p><i>Examiner Note:</i> If box 1 is checked, check either box (a), (b) or (c). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THIS ADVISORY ACTION IS THE FIRST RESPONSE TO APPLICANT'S FIRST AFTER-FINAL REPLY WHICH WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. ONLY CHECK BOX (c) IN THE LIMITED SITUATION SET FORTH UNDER BOX (c). See MPEP 706.07(f).</p>		
<p>Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) or (c) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).</p>		
<p>NOTICE OF APPEAL</p>		
<p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).</p>		
<p>AMENDMENTS</p>		
<p>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The proposed amendments filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will <u>not</u> be entered because</p>		
<p>a) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);</p>		
<p>b) <input type="checkbox"/> They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);</p>		
<p>c) <input type="checkbox"/> They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or</p>		
<p>d) <input type="checkbox"/> They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.</p>		
<p>NOTE: <u>See Continuation Sheet.</u> (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).</p>		
<p>4. <input type="checkbox"/> The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).</p>		
<p>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.</p>		
<p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).</p>		
<p>7. <input type="checkbox"/> For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): (a) <input type="checkbox"/> will not be entered, or (b) <input type="checkbox"/> will be entered, and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.</p>		
<p>AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE</p>		
<p>8. <input type="checkbox"/> The affidavit or other evidence filed after final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will <u>not</u> be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).</p>		
<p>9. <input type="checkbox"/> The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing the Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will <u>not</u> be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome <u>all</u> rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).</p>		
<p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.</p>		
<p>REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER</p>		
<p>11. <input type="checkbox"/> The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:</p> <p>_____.</p>		
<p>12. <input type="checkbox"/> Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). _____</p>		
<p>13. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.</p>		
<p>STATUS OF CLAIMS</p>		
<p>14. The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:</p>		
<p>Claim(s) allowed: _____.</p>		
<p>Claim(s) objected to: _____.</p>		
<p>Claim(s) rejected: 1-19 and 21-30.</p>		
<p>Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.</p>		
		<p>/Darwin P. Erez Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3773</p>

Continuation of 3. NOTE: The proposed amendments to claims 19, 29 and 30, which removes the limitation for the inner sleeve comprising two annular surfaces which are electrically connected to one another by connecting elements, have rendered the claims not allowable since that limitation is part of the allowable subject matter. The applicant is required to amend the claims to correct the 112 issues listed in the Office action mailed on 12/19/11 while maintaining this specific limitation. In addition, the examiner has found additional corrections that needs to be made to the claims to better place the case in condition for allowance:

Claim 1, line 4, "an inner sleeve to be mounted" should read --an inner sleeve constructed to be mounted--

Claim 1, line 7, "an outer sleeve to be mounted" should read --an outer sleeve constructed to be mounted--

Claim 1, line 17, "wherein an annular contact surface" should read --wherein one of the annular contact surface"

The applicant should go over the remaining dependent claims to verify that the limitations on those claims still have proper antecedent basis following the previous amendments to the independent claims. For example, claim 2 recites "the electrically conductive material", which no longer has antecedent basis in the independent claim 1.